

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: March 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on March 2, 2007

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, training/conferences, and stakeholder feedback:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

New Trenton Pipeline Spill, New Trenton, Indiana

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Steve Renninger of Emergency Branch 1 responded to a pipeline spill reported by Texas Eastern Pipeline (TEPPCO) on February 20, 2007, in New Trenton, Franklin County, Indiana. Besides the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), other responding parties included Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Franklin County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Franklin County Sheriff, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Pipeline Safety, and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA). The pipeline rupture spilled low sulfur diesel into an adjacent farm field. Initial response efforts (i.e., berming) by the New Trenton Fire Department and Franklin County EMA prevented the spilled diesel fuel from immediately entering the adjacent Elkhorn Creek and Whitewater River. Based on initial findings, OSC Steve Renninger issued a Notice of Federal Interest to TEPPCO. Initial activities undertaken by TEPPCO included diesel removal from the farm field and berm completion to protect Elkhorn Creek. TEPPCO initially reported 4,000 to 8,000 gallons spilled, a figure eventually revised to about 35,000 gallons

after more data was gathered. IDEM and U.S. EPA continued to provide oversight of TEPPCO recovery operations.

Contact: Steve Renninger (513-569-7539)

Emergency Response, Elgin, Illinois

On February 23, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Mike Ribordy of Emergency Response Branch 2 responded to a request for assistance from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to collect samples of an unknown material in the basement of a home in Elgin, Illinois. The resident had originally called the fire department, who sent a HAZMAT (hazardous materials) team. The fire department used a HAZMAT ID infrared spectrophotometer, which gave a 95 percent match for chloroacetaldehyde. The Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) contractor was mobilized to initiate air monitoring for chlorine gas, ammonia, phosphine, and hydrogen cyanide (HCN). Sampling results indicated the material in the corner of the basement contained water, sodium nitrate, sodium sulfate, and trace amounts of sodium carbonate and ferric nitrate. Based on these results, it was concluded that the boiler was the most likely source of the problem. On February 28, 2007, the fire department vented the house to reduce the carbon monoxide levels to allow the boiler to be repaired. Once the repair is complete, U.S. EPA will return to the house and monitor the basement to verify that the boiler was the source of the problem.

Contact: Mike Ribordy (312-886-4592)

Settlement Reached, Five Star Laundry, Chicago, Illinois

On February 23, 2007, the U.S. EPA filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order resolving the Administrative Complaint that was filed on September 19, 2006, against Five Star Laundry, Chicago, Illinois, with a proposed penalty of \$43,298. The alleged violation was for Section 312 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. As part of the settlement, Five Star Laundry will pay a \$19,000 penalty to the U.S. Treasury. Five Star Laundry has 30 days to pay the penalty.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES**Regional Environmental Emergencies Team Meetings, Sarnia and Windsor, Canada**

On February 6 and 8, 2007, U.S. EPA attended the Regional Environmental Emergencies Team (REET) meetings to outreach to Canadian environmental agencies and organizations. The Agency provided presentations during both meetings on its emergency response capabilities, along with general background information about the Region 5 office. Some groups represented at the meetings included local police and fire department officials, the Canadian Coast Guard, Environment Canada, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, the Canadian Red Cross, and others. Discussion topics for the meetings included a background and explanation of REET, spill reporting in Ontario, cross-border notifications in the event spills may affect both the Canadian and American shorelines, spills impacting First Nation (Tribal) lands, and the scheduled Regional Response Team (RRT) meeting in Detroit, Michigan. A wide range of topics were discussed at the meetings and good cross-border networking occurred.

Contacts: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)
Jeff Kimble (734-692-7688)
James Justice (734-692-687)
Brian Kelly (734-692-684)

Mercury Spill Response Workshop, Marquette, Michigan

On February 27, 2007, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Mark Durno and Michelle Jaster participated in a Mercury Spill Response Workshop at the Marquette County Health Department in Marquette, Michigan. The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) organized the free workshop, which has been offered to local environmental health officials and emergency responders numerous times at locations throughout the State. The free workshop focused on providing local communities with available guidance and resources regarding health impacts, spill response cleanups, communication, and coordination efforts in the event of a mercury spill in their jurisdiction. OSCs Mark Durno and Michelle Jaster presented an overview of how U.S. EPA conducts mercury cleanups, and demonstrated the use of a mercury vapor analyzer instrument.

Contacts: Mark Durno (440-250-1743)
Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)

Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting, Macomb County, Michigan

On February 21, 2007, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jeff Kimble participated in an Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting at the request of Macomb County Michigan officials. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a presentation on a time-critical removal action that took place in their area. First responders from both Macomb and Oakland counties were in attendance, along with local industry. OSC Jeff Kimble talked about the St. Clair Shores polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) site located within the County and the Agency's various response capabilities, including its ability to support the local fire and police departments during environmental emergency responses.

Contact: Jeff Kimble (734-692-7688)

Vigilant Guard Regional Tabletop Exercise, Camp Atterbury, Indiana

On March 1, 2007, Sheila Calovich (Emergency Response Branch 1), Jim Mitchell (Emergency Response Branch 2), and Jack Barnette (Air and Radiation Division) attended the Vigilant Guard Tabletop Exercise in Camp Atterbury, Indiana. The purpose of the exercise was to enhance the preparedness of the National Guard in performing State roles and responsibilities associated with Homeland Defense and Defense Support to Civil Authorities. The exercise provided the National Guard the opportunity to explore cooperative relationships during a simulated crisis. The scenario involved the detonation of improvised nuclear device in Indianapolis, Indiana. U.S. EPA Region 5 educated the National Guard on the radiological equipment and the personnel that could assist the National Guard during such an event. There will be a follow up exercise conducted in May 2007.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK**Thank You Letter, Michigan Department of Community Health**

Emergency Response Section 1 received a thank you letter for On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Mark Durno and Michelle Jaster from Brendan Boyle of the Michigan Department of Community Health. The letter stated, in part: "Thanks very much for the superb

presentation and discussion at the Upper Peninsula Mercury

Workshop which has already produced results. I'm taking this as profound evidence of our impact. Thanks again."

Contact: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)

Thank You Letter, Heritage at Miami Bluffs Advisory Board

Emergency Response Section 1 received a thank you letter for On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Steve Renninger from the Heritage at Miami Bluffs Advisory Board. It states in part: "Recently our community had received media coverage regarding an EPA Superfund Site that was being remediated on the northern boundary of our community. Needless to say as new homeowners we were both alarmed and angry. We contacted Steve and he was most helpful to our community. He and the State of Ohio EPA Site Coordinator Scott Glum met with our community the evening of January 29, 2007, and provided a very professional and thorough briefing and answered the community's questions. Please pass on our sincere thanks to Steve. The community is now informed and is more comfortable."

Contact: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
 Scott Sherman (OSWER)
 Barry Breen (OSWER)
 Ed Chu (OSWER)
 David Lopez (OSRTI)
 Ernie Watkins (OSRTI)
 Susan Bromm (OECA)
 Catherine McCabe (OECA)
 Barnes Johnson (OSRTI)
 Dana Tulis (OEM)
 Elizabeth Southerland (OSRTI)
 Larry Zaragoza (OSRTI)
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 Jim Woolford (OSRTI)
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